



Urban Research Lab: WATERSHED Africa

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Padiglione Italia 2021

17. Mostra Internazionale di
Architettura La Biennale di Venezia

TO:

Dr Saul Golden

Venice, June 8th 2021

Dear Dr Golden,

RE: La Biennale di Venezia Biennale Architettura 2021, Padiglione Italia, Giardino delle Vergini — Un'esplorazione della Resilienza dello Spazio Pubblico. Ulster University, Belfast School of Architecture & the Built Environment, Urban Research Lab.

Thank you for your important contribution to the Italian Pavilion's commissioned installation on rainwater harvesting with David Turnbull's team as part of this year's Biennale Architettura. I can confirm the installation will open this September in the prestigious Giardino delle Vergini Session, "An Exploration of the Resilience of Public Space", curated by Dario Pedrabissi. It will accompany our main Pavilion exhibits until 21.11.2021 when I understand it will travel as part of related impact activities in Italy, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and finally Africa where your joint rainwater initiatives are being developed.

On behalf of the curatorial team for the Italian Pavilion, promoted by the Directorate General for Contemporary Creativity of Italy's Ministry of Culture, we welcome your role as a Director of Ulster University's Urban Research Lab and research with Professor Turnbull on the important issue of rainwater harvesting in Africa. This work linking trans-disciplinary and performative tactics to co-construct meaning in sustainable shared urban spaces connects well with our Pavilion's theme of Resilient Communities and Global South focus areas. We recognise it as architecture contributing significantly to improving the quality of life we lead and providing adequate responses to the environmental and social changes of our time.

I also acknowledge the vital funding to realise this installation from Ulster University's Belfast School of Architecture and the Built Environment, in partnership with Professor Turnbull and the Florence Institute of Design International. I will forward two printed copies of the Italian Pavilion and Garden catalogue for you and for your University.

Sincerely

Prof. Alessandro Melis
Curatore Padiglione Italia 2021